

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Route 3 Bridge over Conrail (Northern Secondary),
New York, Susquehanna & Western Railway and Ramp A
North Bergen Township, Hudson County

Public Information Center
Thursday, April 7, 2011, 4 - 7 pm

The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT), committed to developing transportation improvements that best balance transportation needs, the environment, community concerns, and cost, will hold a Public Information Center (PIC) to inform local residents, officials, and the business community about the **Route 3 Bridge over Conrail (Northern Secondary), NYS&W and Ramp A** in North Bergen Township, Hudson County. You are encouraged to actively participate by providing comments at the meeting, by mail, or by e-mail.

The Meeting

The Public Information Center will be held at **North Bergen Town Hall, located at 4233 Kennedy Boulevard on Thursday, April 7, 2011, from 4 - 7 pm**. Please come at a time that is convenient for you. You will have an opportunity to review exhibits of the proposed project, ask questions, and discuss issues with NJDOT staff members. Property owners with rental units are advised that tenants are invited and encouraged to participate in this process.

Background

NJDOT proposes to replace the existing Route 3 Bridge (Structure No. 0908-153) over Conrail and NYS&W. The structure, built in 1929, has been classified as structurally deficient and functionally obsolete due to the poor condition of the substructure and deck, as well as inadequate geometry (width) and lateral clearance to Ramp A.

The Proposed Project

Utilizing information obtained from comprehensive studies, available record plans, data gathered from field visits, and from meetings with local officials and stakeholders, the Preliminary Preferred Alternative was developed. This alternative requires three stages of permanent construction to replace and widen the bridge to the south. The replacement bridge will eliminate structural deficiencies and the bridge's functionally obsolete condition. It will also allow for the utilization of the existing bridge while sections of the new bridge are constructed thereby eliminating the need for a temporary structure, saving both time and money.

Traffic capacity reviews of the area concluded that maintaining a four-lane bridge will be sufficient for current and future use. The new structure will be widened to provide a four-foot inner and a ten-foot outer shoulder, two-12-foot lanes and a two-foot median barrier in each direction. A sidewalk will only be constructed on the north side of the bridge. Efforts will be made to increase the vertical clearance over the railroads to meet the 23-foot design standard. Pedestrian access to the Park and Ride facility will be improved by providing a sidewalk on the west approach from the north side of the bridge and down along Ramp A.

During construction, two lanes of traffic will be maintained in each direction during peak hours. Environmental impacts to the project

area will be minimized by the construction of retaining walls at the west approach. It is anticipated that one property will be acquired and another property will require a partial strip take. Permanent easements will be required from three properties. Additional construction and maintenance easements will be acquired.

Federal regulations concerning the protection of historic properties require the NJDOT to review the effect of proposed projects upon historic resources listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). This is referred to as the "Section 106 Process."

The NJDOT is required to solicit public input. Historic preservation organization, historical societies, and similar groups, or individuals having pertinent information about cultural resources (archaeological or architectural) in the project area are encouraged to attend or may submit their comments to:

Mr. David Mudge, Environmental Team Leader
NJ Department of Transportation
Bureau of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Solutions
PO Box 600
Trenton, NJ 08625-0600

A preliminary cultural resource screening has been completed for the project area. Cultural resources have been identified, but are not directly adjacent to the project area. No known archaeological resources have been found at present, additional testing may be conducted in the future. According to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, more detailed identification and evaluation will be performed as the project progresses. Cultural resource and archaeological surveys, will be reviewed by the State Historic Preservation Office.

Estimated Schedule

This project is currently in the Concept Development Phase. The project will advance to Preliminary Engineering and then on to Final Design. Construction is anticipated to start in 2014.

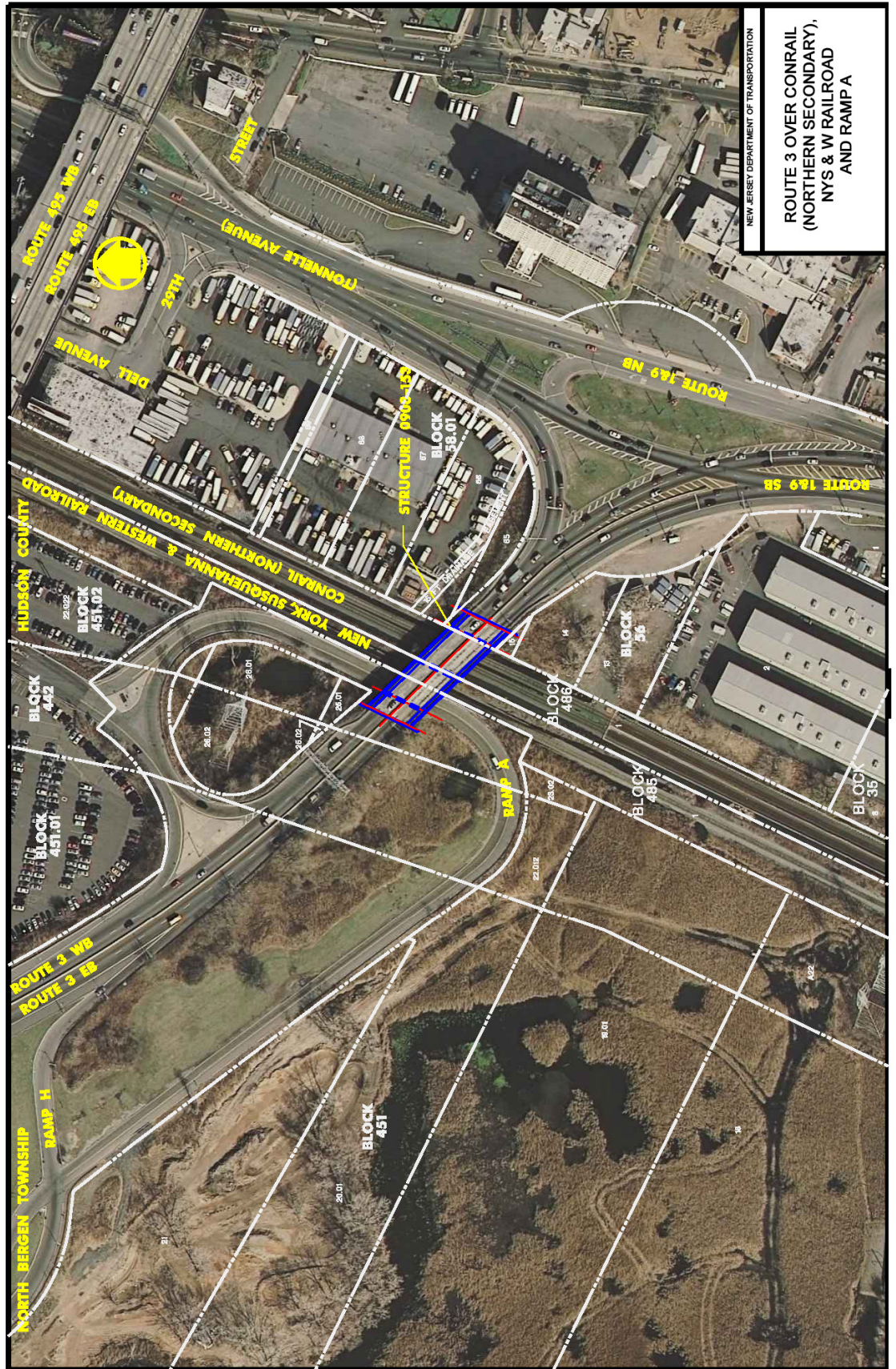
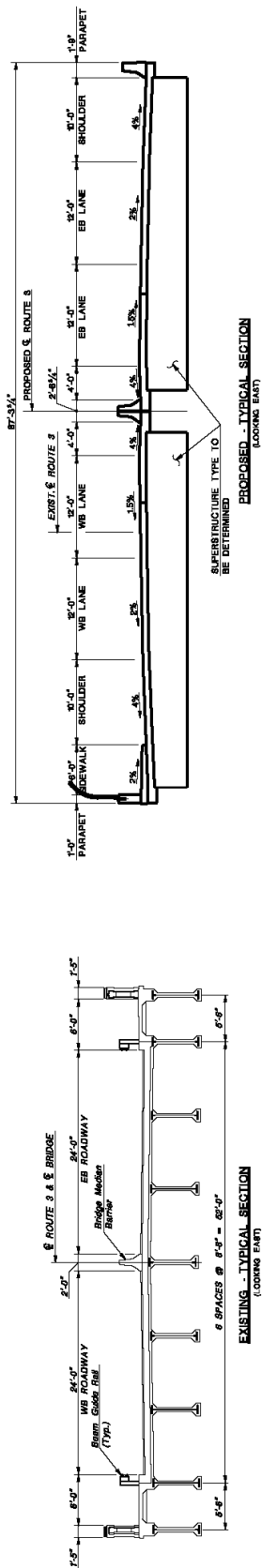
For more information, please contact:
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